

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 196 – HB 483

March 22, 2017

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires each local education agency (LEA) to establish a progressive truancy intervention program for students in K-12 schools. Requires K-12 schools to implement a progressive truancy intervention plan for at-risk students before the school refers a student to juvenile court. Implements a tiered system which is triggered by a student having at least three unexcused absences within a school year. Sets forth what each tier of the progressive truancy system shall include. Prohibits the use of in-school or out-of-school suspension as part of the progressive truancy interventions. Requires referrals for truancy made to a juvenile court be accompanied by a statement from the student's school that the LEA has attempted progressive truancy interventions.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (005780): Deletes and rewrites the bill such that the only substantive changes are: (1) to require LEAs to designate funds for an attendance supervisor and to assign duties to the individual; (2) sets the maximum length of the attendance contract for students involved in progressive truancy intervention at 90 days or the last day of the semester; and (3) authorizes LEAs that have adopted an effective progressive truancy intervention program to present details of the intervention program to the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) for approval in lieu of strict compliance with the provisions of the bill as amended.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Increase Local Expenditures - \$2,597,900/FY17-18 and Subsequent Years*

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by the DOE, 103 of 141 LEAs currently have an attendance supervisor.

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- Given the amended bill is applicable to the 2017-2018 and subsequent school years, the 38 remaining LEAs will designate funding for an attendance supervisor beginning in FY17-18.
- Assuming a salary of \$50,000 and benefit levels of \$18,367, the mandatory recurring increase in local government expenditures beginning in FY17-18 is estimated to be \$2,597,946 $[(\$50,000 + \$18,367) \times 38]$.
- The DOE will be able to accommodate the provisions of this bill as amended within existing resources without an additional appropriation or reduced reversion.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee" followed by a small, stylized monogram or initials "RNC".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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